3. "A councillor elected at an ordinary election held after the occurrence of a vacancy shall enter upon office forthwith, but shall hold office only so long as he would have been entitled to hold office, if he had been elected before the occurrence of the vacancy.

4. "A casual vacancy in the office of an elected councillor shall be filled at a casual election which shall be fixed by the Chairman to take place as soon as may be after the occurrence of the vacancy; provided that no casual election shall be held to fill a vacancy occurring within three months before the ordinary date of retirement, and that such vacancy shall be filled at the next ordinary election.

5. "A councillor elected at a casual vacancy shall enter upon office forthwith, but shall hold office, so long only as the councillor in whose place he is elected would have been entitled to hold office, if the vacancy had not occurred".

(*The sub-clauses were put to the vote of the House and carried.*)

President.—Clause 3.—"This Regulation shall have retrospective effect."

(*Clause 3 was put to the vote of the House and carried.*)

President.—Preamble.—"Whereas it is expedient to further amend the Cochin Municipal Regulation XI of 1096, it is hereby enacted as follows.—"

(*The preamble was put to the vote of the House and carried.*)

President.—Now I put the whole Bill to the vote of the House. The question before the House is that the Bill to amend the Cochin Municipal Regulation be passed by the House.

(*The Bill was put to the vote of the House and carried.*)

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Cochin Municipal Regulation be taken up and passed on Friday, the 19th of Kumbham 1103.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

President.—The question before the House is that the Bill to amend the Cochin Municipal Regulation be taken up and passed at the meeting of the Council on Friday, the 19th Kumbham 1103.

(*The motion was put to the vote of the House and carried.*)

Demand for Supplementary Grant.

President.—The next item is the supplementary grant by the Education Member.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Sir, I beg to move for an additional grant of Rs. 10,000, for the Primary education of the

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depressed classes. I do not think that much pleading is needed on my part to persuade this House to make this grant. Our State had long ago realised the importance of the question of the elevation of the depressed classes; and we have been making persistent efforts for reaching that end; and ever since this House came into existence, I do not think that there has been a subject on which there has been such unanimous expression of opinion and which has received the unanimous support of this House as this question of the education of the depressed classes. So that, as I said, I do not think much argument is necessary to induce this House to consider this motion favourably. Not only here in the Cochin State but all over India the question of the elevation of the depressed classes is receiving a great deal of public attention. We are beginning to realise that for our national progress the removal of this pestering sore in the body-politic is an absolute necessity. And during the last week, for instance, those of us who have been following the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly at Delhi would have noticed from the reports in the papers that there was a very lengthy discussion on the subject of the elevation of the depressed classes. Vehement speeches were made from all sections of the House, and the opinion was expressed that the resources of the country should be utilised to the utmost for the solution of this very vital question of the elevation of the depressed classes. The present degraded state in which they are is acting as a bar to our national advancement. It is not only in the interests of these poor degraded human beings, but it is to the interest of the other communities as well that they should be raised from their present degraded condition, and that they should be raised to a really human level of existence. One of the proposals made was that the Central Government should set apart a crore of rupees expressly for the purpose of the elevation of the depressed classes, and one of the leading Members, I think it was Pandit Malaviya, said that the most effective solution of this problem of the amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes is the spread of mass education among them; and those who have been following the discussion would have perused the reply made by the Member for Government. He narrated all that had been done by the various provinces, and he quoted statistics to show what progress had been made during the last decade, and he showed from statistics that during the last decade pupils belonging to the depressed communities attending schools had increased by more than 100 per cent. So far as we are concerned, we have an increase of more than 100 per cent, and we have achieved this percentage of increase not in the course of

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one decade but in the course of one year. The necessity for this additional grant is the result of this phenomenal increase in the number of depressed class pupils who are attending our schools.

President.—What was the allotment last year?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—The original allotment was about Rs. 8,000 which was subsequently increased to Rs. 13,000.

Taking India as a whole, the increase was 100 per cent in a decade, and so far as we are concerned, we have the same increase in the course of one year.

President.—How do you explain this increase?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—We had the consciousness that we had the support of the public and of this House. We have been making special efforts to bring about an increase of attendance on the part of these pupils. Special efforts were made throughout last year and this year, and the House will be glad to note that. I hope that, in view of this very good result which we have achieved, the House would be glad to pass this additional grant, which is intended for the poor children of the degraded communities that are now attending our schools. As I brought to the notice of this House yesterday, owing to want of funds, we had to ask the authorities in certain taluks to stop feeding altogether. It is a hard condition, and I am just waiting for the permission of this House to resume feeding where it has been stopped. Out of this Rs. 10,000, I have asked for, Rs. 5,000 is intended as grants-in-aid for schools that are intended for the depressed classes, and Rs. 5,000 for feeding and clothing the poor pupils. From the minutes of the Standing Finance Committee I find a doubt expressed as regards the necessity for two schools, and I find that the Hon'ble Member for the Jenmies has raised this question. I know there was some controversy about Olarikkara School. We had petitions from people interested in the neighbouring schools to the effect that Olarikkara required no school. The Inspecting Officer inquired into the matter and submitted his report. I myself went to the spot and made a personal investigation. There was the statement that it was less than a mile distant from the neighbouring schools. According to the Inspector's report, it was more than one mile. In Madras where there is compulsory education they take one mile as the maximum distance between the residence of a child and the school he is to attend; for a child attending school cannot be expected to walk more than one mile. If the distance is more than a mile, the child is exempted from compulsory attendance. In this particular case the

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Inspecting Officer and myself went there and consulted the people of the locality; and I took care to consult the Panchayat President, Mr. Sekhara Marar, and he was also of opinion that a school was necessary there. These schools were recommended, because they were attended by a large number of depressed class pupils.

President.—Which is the nearest school?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Chettupuzha and Ayyanthole. These schools were recommended for grant, because they were largely attended by depressed class pupils. On the other hand, there are a good many schools for which we have not recommended any grant, but we have simply recognised them, and it will be a great pity if these 23 schools which are attended by a large number of depressed class pupils should be deprived of the grant given to them. So far as Olarikkara is concerned, there are more than 45 such pupils, and I found that not one of these depressed class pupils ever attended any other neighbouring school; in fact, they are mostly children of the Pulayas who are working in the *Kole* lands near Pulley, and if this school is closed, these children will simply disappear.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Are there any two schools within one mile in the State?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Then there is the school at Kuzhur. The Inspector reported in favour of the school and there was no controversy. No complaint has reached me, from any of the Managers of the neighbouring schools till now.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Did they know that you were making this recommendation?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes, Sir. This is the first time that I hear a doubt expressed as regards the necessity for the school, and I shall make it a point to visit this school as early as possible, and if I find that the objection is reasonable, I shall stop the grant. That is all I have got to say.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Is there any school in the list which is within one mile?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—This minimum of one mile is what we take for rural areas. For instance, a question was asked in this House whether the Primary Girls' School in Trichur was not superfluous, because there was the St. Thomas' College on the opposite side of the road. In towns you have got schools of different kinds very near each other. All these schools are well attended also. Otherwise, we would not sanction the grant. This is not the case in rural areas. So I hope

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that the House would be generous enough to sanction the Rs. 10,000 asked for.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—If the Pulayas are attending these schools, will there be decrease in the number of students belonging to other communities ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—No. There are pupils of other castes also attending these schools.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—No. 2. Pulaya Night School. Why is it designated as such ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It is called Pulaya Night School, because it is mainly intended for Pulaya children. At Chalakkudi there is the Pulaya Colony, and they have got a Day School for Pulaya children and a Night School for adults. I think that there are 60 depressed class pupils and 30 or 40 pupils of other castes in the Night School. There is a Hindu school in Manjanakkad, and it is called so, because it is managed by a Hindu Agency. At Kunnathura in Pazhayannur there is a small Nayadi Colony, and close to that there is a Paraya school. There is an Ezhuthassan who has opened a school in the heart of the Paraya settlement, and it is well attended now, and we have been giving grant to that school. I asked him whether he could not admit Nayadis also into that school. When I visited the school the next time, I put the same question, but he told me that he tried his level best without success ; for, if the Nayadis came, all the Parayas would go away.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—May I know whether the strength shown here represents the strength of the depressed classes or the total ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Depressed classes alone.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—May I know if any of these Night schools have been visited by the Director ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes, Sir.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—May I know whether, on inspection, you have found the working of the school satisfactory?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—They are making rapid progress. For social work among depressed classes the Night School is very effective. After the day's toil, they bathe before they go to the school, where they are given all kinds of useful information ; and moreover, on account of their attending the Night School, they are prevented from attending the toddy shop. The Night School acts as a sort of counter-attraction to the toddy shop.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—No. 18—Night school for adults. May I know whether this is the first school of its kind?

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Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—There are other schools also. In fact, all Night schools are mainly attended by adults.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—May I know the strength in class I of that school ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It is, I think, a little more than 45. At present they are working in two batches. I have recommended the appointment of an additional teacher.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Feeding and clothing arrangements are done only to the children and not to the adults ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Only to children.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—May I know if the denomination given to these schools at present, for example, Pulaya School and Paraya School, can be abolished. They are very jarring and offending names. We do not want denominational names.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—None of these schools are denominated by me. On the other hand, it is the managing body that gives the name to the school.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—You must tell them to give another name.

President.—Suppose we call the school conducted by the Ezhuttassan " Kunnath Ezhuttassan's School".

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Then suppose the Ezhuttassan goes away.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—You must try to persuade them to call the school by some other name.

Mr. K. Raman Menon.—Are all the newly started schools given grant ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—All of them are not given grant. They are simply working in the hope that they will be given grant in the next year.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was there any complaint from the Manager of the Edatturutti Convent School ?

Mr. K. Raman Menon.—May I know whether there is proper supervision over the work done by the teachers in these schools before the grant is given ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Otherwise no grant will be given. There is the Inspecting Officer.

Mr. K. Raman Menon.—May I know how many times they will inspect a school ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—The rule is that there should be one thorough inspection and one visit in a year. In suspicious cases, i. e., whenever there is complaint from the locality, I insist that the Inspecting Officers should pay surprise visits to the schools.

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Srimati T. Madhavi Amma.—May I know the amount given to Miss George and Srimati Droupathi Amma for attending the Conference held at Delhi during last year ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Rs. 200.

Srimati T. Madhavi Amma.—From what minor head was it diverted ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It was a gift by Government.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—May I know, if children of both sexes attend primary schools ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Up to class IV both sexes are admitted.

Motions on Demand for Supplementary Grant.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for 'Primary Education—Grants-in-aid' by one rupee.*

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—I want to draw the attention of the Director to the condition of the 'Little Flower School' in Cranganur. It is in Lokamaleswaram. It was newly started some 2 years ago, and I understand that, though the Government promised to give grant, no grant has yet been given. Two of the Head-masters of the locality and I myself have gone to the school, and the Inspector has also reported in favour of the school. The teachers are working there for charity, and they are paid a small amount out of public subscriptions.

President.—What is the strength of the school ?

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—There are two classes and each class consists of more students than are allowed by the *Code* —more than 30. There is no school in Cranganur used by these people and no school within one mile radius.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It is one of these schools that we have simply recognised and not aided. We have nearly exhausted the educational allotment for Cranganur.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—That is no reason to stop the school.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—There is no possibility of increasing the educational budget.

President.—There is some surplus under 'Opium and Ganja.'

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—Even otherwise, there is surplus.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I should be very glad.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—There is a surplus of more than Rs. 600. There is no reason for saving one pie out of schools.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—But the position until last year was that Cranganur was spending about 33 per cent on

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